

Message Text

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FOR COMMERCE/BEWT/EEAD/SEVERANCE AND HANLEY

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SUBJECT: NEW ROMANIAN TRADE PLANS

REF: STATE 194566

1. EMBASSY READ WITH INTEREST TODAY REFTEL REPORTING BEWT MEETING WITH GOR EMBASSY OFFICER PLAISEANU. SEVERAL ASPECTS OF THAT MEETING STRIKE US AS CURIOUS.

2. DURING NUMEROUS JUNE/JULY MEETINGS HELD BY VISITING BEWT OFFICER BURGESS WITH MFT, BANK OF FOREIGN TRADE AND CHAMBER OF COMMERCE OFFICIALS, NONE, REPEAT NON, OF THE THREE TOPICS MENTIONED BY PLAISEANU HAS COME UP. BURGESS HAS WRAP-UP SESSION WITH MFT DIRECTOR BOTA AND U.S. DESK OFFICERS ON AUGUST 9 AND WILL USE OCCASION TO METION THESE TOPICS.

3. GOOD DEAL OF ATTENTION CURRENTLY BEING FOCUSED BY GOR ON THIRD COUNTRY COOPERATION AND ELECTRONICS WORKING GROUP PORPOSALS WHICH, IF IMPLEMENTED, WILL PROBABLY TAKE FORM OF SEMINARS. WE WOULD THINK

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ROMANIANS WILL HAVE THEIR HANDS FULL MAKING THESE TWO SUCCESSFUL WITHOUT LANUNCHING INTO NEW WORKING GROUPS OR SEMINARS. CURRENT STATUS OF THIRD COUNTRY COOPERATION GROUP IS THAT GOR WILL PROVIDE HASFURTHER AT U.S. CHAMBER OF COMMERCE WITH DETAILED INFORMATION AND AGENDA MATERIALS BY MID-SEPTEMBER, THEREBY PERMITTING CHAMBER TWO MONTHS

TO ORGANIZE SEMINAR IN MID- TO LATE NOVEMBER. ELECTRONICS WORKING GROUP PROPOSAL IS CURRENTLY IN HANDS OF MINISTRY MACHINE BUILDING, FTO ELECTRONUM AND INDUSTRIAL CENTRAL FOR ELECTRONICS AND COMPUTER TECHNOLOGY. BURGESS WAS TOLD TODAY THAT WE COULD EXPECT PROPOSAL BACK BY FIRST WEEK IN SEPTEMBER.

4. IN RECENT MEETING AT MFT, FIRST DEPUTY MINISTER MARGARITESCU EXPRESSED KEEN INTEREST IN STATUS THESE TWO WORKING GROUPS AND IN PARTICULAR, HE HOPED THAT BOTH COULD BE HELD IN 1978. WE REMARKED THAT TIMING AND SUCCESS OF THIRD COUNTRY COOPERATION SEMINAR DEPENDED ON QUALITY AND DETAIL OF INFORMATION BEING SUPPLIED BY GOR TO HASFURTHER AND WHETHER IT WOULD SERVE TO ATTRACT U.S. FIRMS TO SUCH A SEMINAR. WE WERE MORE CAUTIOUS ON THE ELECTRONICS WORKING GROUP, NOTING THAT ONCE THE APPROVED PROPOSAL WAS IN HAND, WE MUST THEN FIND A WILLING SPONSOR. WE CAUTIONED THAT THIS WOULD TAKE TIME AND THAT IT WAS PROBABLY UNREALISTIC TO THINK OF SUCH A MEETING BEFORE EARLY 1979.

5. IF HELD, ELECTRONICS WORKING GROUP IS LIKELY TO FOCUS TO CONSIDERABLE DEGREE ON TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER ISSUES. WE, THEREFORE, SEE CERTAIN AMOUNT OF DUPLICATION IN PLAISEANU'S IDEA OF SEMINAR ON LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER.
AGGREY

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